

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 are pending in this application.

Claims 13 to 17 are allowed.

Claims 1 and 12 are rejected.

Claims 2 to 11 are objected to and are said to be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claims 1 and 12 have been cancelled.

Claims 2 and 4 have been rewritten in independent form and include all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Claims 3 and 5 to 11 are now in proper form, depending directly or indirectly on amended claims 2 and 4 respectively.

As such, it is respectfully submitted that all of the claims remaining in the application are in condition for allowance. Early and favorable consideration would be appreciated.

Should any minor informalities need to be addressed, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

This Amendment is being filed with an Extension of Time for two (2) months. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the extension fee, as well as any deficiencies in the fees provided to Deposit Account No. 12-0010.

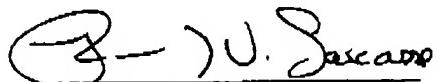
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Respectfully submitted,



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1/21/05
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